
CHANGES TO CANADIAN FUEL CONSUMPTION RATINGS

In 2015, Natural Resources Canada (NRC) changed how fuel economy ratings are calculated. This updated approach was introduced to better represent typical driving conditions.

The current 5-cycle test method replaced the former 2-cycle method that has been in place since 1995 for all cars and light trucks. The 2-cycle method used only a city and a highway test, and consumers found the NRC fuel economy ratings generated by this method did not adequately reflect their real-world fuel economy.

As a result, the federal government implemented 3 additional fuel consumption tests to account for:

1. Air conditioner usage
2. Cold temperature operation
3. Driving at higher speeds with more rapid acceleration and braking

Here's what you need to know:

- For those used to the benchmarks of the old 2-cycle method, remember, the latest EnerGuide fuel economy numbers shown will be higher because of the 5-cycle test method. The newer model year vehicles, however, are not less fuel-efficient. The current testing procedure is more robust and will **better represent** realistic driving conditions.
- The 5-cycle test method will result in figures that are 10-20% higher than the old 2-cycle ratings for the same make and model. The higher fuel economy ratings simply reflect the **additional testing** procedures and not worse fuel economy. Driving a newer model under the same circumstances, you will not pay more in gas versus vehicles of model year 2014 and under.
- Remember, the 2014 (and prior) model year vehicle labels will show only the old 2-cycle fuel ratings. All 2015 model year and up vehicle fuel consumption ratings will reflect the new 5-cycle test method.
- The 5-cycle test method, which replaced the 2-cycle method, is an **industry-wide** change and applies to all automotive manufacturers.
- While the current rating system better reflects real-world driving habits, your **actual** fuel consumption will still vary depending on how, where and when you drive.
- You can see the ratings for all 1994-2014 model year vehicles **adjusted** to the 5-cycle test method using the Natural Resources Canada web tool [here](#).